

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 103701

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

TREASURY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USDEL JEC PARIS

INFO USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC

COGARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 103701

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: MAY 2 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

PRES TERMS EVACUATION COMPLETE (FINNEY, NYT). FORD RISKED
US LIVES IN SVN BY DELAYING EVACUATION TO SAVE THOUSANDS
OF VIETS, AND WON (ABRAMSON, LAT 5/1). PRES URGES US
LOOK TO FUTURE, NOT BACK AT VN (MADDEN, NYT).

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PAGE 02 STATE 103701

HOUSE REJECTS 327 MILLION DOL ADMIN AID REQUEST FOR
REFUGEES (CHITRIB); WILL PROBABLY LATER VOTE HUMANITARIAN
AID, BUT OPPOSED PROVISIONS ALLOWING TROOP USE (FRIEDMAN,
PHINQ). PRES ASSAILS BILL REJECTION AS "NOT WORTHY" OF

US PEOPLE (JACKMAN, NYDN). BILL CONSIDERED MOOT BY MANY HOUSE DEMS (NOLAN, GLOBE). BILL KILLED BY COMBINATION OF LIBERALS WHO FEARED TROOP AUTHORITY AND CONSERVATIVES WHO AFRAID SOME AID MIGHT REACH COMMUNISTS (LYONS, WP). VOTE CAME FOLLOWING LAST MINUTE APPEAL BY PRES (BINDER, NYT). BITTER MEMORIES OF TONKIN GULF RESOLUTION, NIXON'S DEPLOYMENT OF TROOPS TO CAMBODIA, AND NUMEROUS TECHNICAL OBJECTIONS BROUGHT BILL DOWN TO DEFEAT (PEPPER, SUN).

VP SAYS VN DEFEAT SHOULD NOT PREVENT US BECOMING INVOLVED IN ME, OTHER INTL DISPUTES (WP). ROCKY TOLD NATL URBAN COALITION HE DECLINED CRITICIZE VN INVOLVEMENT IN 60S BECAUSE FEARED WOULD HARM NY'S CHANCES GETTING USG AID (HOLSENDOLPH, NYT).

SECDEF TOLD NEWSMEN MONDAY HE EXPECTS NO NEW COMMUNIST MIL CHALLENGES IN ASIA AS RESULT NVN VICTORY; UNDERScored US COMMITMENT TO SEVERAL COUNTRIES INCLUDING PHILS, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, NZ, TAIWAN. ADDED DID NOT THINK US PRESENCE IN SK WOULD BE CHALLENGED. UNCLEAR ABOUT THAILAND'S PROSPECTS (PHINQ). SCHLESINGER PROVIDED INSIGHT INTO DOD-EMBASSY FRICTION WHEN SAID AMB MARTIN INSTRUCTED "EXPEDITE" EVACUATION AMCITS AND VIETS WHEN OPERATION MOVED MORE SLOWLY THAN WASHINGTON DESIRED (FINNEY). SECDEF SAID C-F WOULD HAVE BEEN PRESERVED IF NVN THOUGHT US READY USE FORCE (CORDDRY, SUN); SEEMED CONFIRM WP STORY THAT MARTIN WARNED THAT PRES IRRITATED AT SLOW EVACUATION AMERICANS (SUN). SCHLESINGER SEES EBB OF CONFIDENCE IN US (GETLER, WP). TOP ADMIN OFFICIALS REPEATEDLY ASSURE ALLIES, ADVERSARIES THAT US WILL STAND FIRM BEHIND EUR, ASIAN ALLIES, BOTH DIPLOMATICALLY AND MILITARILY. WORLD CAPITALS TRYING SORT OUT IMPACT OF SVN FALL ON FUTURE US POLICIES (SCHMIDT, CSM). IN AFTERMATH OF VN, SPAIN GROWS COOLER TO US MIL PRESENCE (MOWRER, CSM).

NESSEN SPARS WITH PRESS ON VN INVOLVEMENT, EVACUATION, INCLUDING QUESTIONS ON LEGALITY OF TROOP USE, NIXON-UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 103701

THIEU LETTERS (MADDEN). NYT, AP EXECS ACKNOWLEDGE BROUGHT CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO BEAR ON ADMIN TO ALLOW EVACUATION OF VIET EMPLOYEES AND FAMILIES (ARNOLD, NYT). ABC CORRESPONDENT REPORTS FROM PHILS THAT AMB MARTIN LEFT 450 VIET EMPLOYEES OF EMBASSY BEHIND, DESPITE ASSURANCES THEY WOULD BE EVACUATED (WP).

VIET DEBATE GROWS BITTERLY PARTISAN ON WHETHER US RENEGED ON PROMISES TO SVN (TREWHITT, SUN). SEN JACKSON CHARGES ADMIN MISLEAD SVN AND CONGRESS ON COMMITMENTS, CITES NIXON-THIEU LETTERS, CALLS FOR PROBE. ADM ZUMWALT SAYS HAK, NIXON "DID NOT LEVEL" WITH CONGRESS ON COMMITMENTS (MARDER, WP; HEALY, NYDN).

RELEASE OF LETTERS SPURS NEW CONGRESSIONAL DEMANDS FOR ADMIN FULL DISCLOSURE OF ALL DOCUMENTS RELATING YTO SVN COMMITMENTS (GWERTZMAN, NYT). CSM;S SPERLING WONDERS IF THERE WERE "SECRET" COMMITMENTS TO THIEU; SAYS TOO EARLY TO KNOW IF PRES' INSISTENCE ON NOT DISCLOSING DOCUMENTS WILL INJURE CREDIBILITY WITH CONGRESS.

MOST PAPERS NOTE DAILY ARRIVAL OF MORE VIET REFUGEES

AND HOSTILITY SET OFF CONCERNING RESETTLEMENT. MANY DO HUMAN-INTEREST STORIES ON INDIVIDUAL REFUGEES OR FAMILIES. US SHIPS LEAVE SVN COAST, SAIL TO PHILS, AFTER PICKING UP ALMOST 40,000 REFUGEES (CARTER, NYDN; MEYER, WP). US OFFICIAL ASSURES ARKANSAS OVER REFUGEE IMPACT AT FORD CHAFFEE (AYRES, NYT). CANADA WILL ACCEPT 3000 VIET REFUGEES (REUTER, NYT; WP). ONLY REFUGEES WITH JOB, HOME, SPONSOR LEAVE PENDLETON (WINTERS, SUN). MANY PROFESSIONALS AMONG REFUGEES ON GUAM (UPI, CHITRIB; PEARLSTINE, WSJ). HIGH-RANKING ARVN OFFICERS AND GVN OFFICIALS KEEP TO THEMSELVES ON GUAM, AWAY FROM OTHER REFUGEES WHO BLAME THEM FOR SVN DEFEAT (WP). RELIGIOUS, OTHER VOLAGS WILL AID RESETTLEMENT OF VIETS IN US (WP). EFFORT TO SETTLE VIET REFUGEES GETS GOING AMID CONFUSION, ANGER (LYNCH, WSJ).

THIEU SAID RULING OUT US RESIDENCE SINCE ANGRY BECAUSE OF NON-HONORING "COMMITMENT" TO SVN; WILL GO TO EUR IF LEAVES TAIWAN (WP).
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 103701

MOSCOW APPLAUDS VC VICTORY IN "RESTRAINED" TONE. WESTERN DIPLOMATS THINK BASED ON USSR DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH USG (CLARITY, NYT). VC VICTORY HAILED IN MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS AROUND WORLD (PHINQ; CHITRIB; NYDN; AP, SUN; WP). PRG OFFICIALS DENY SAIGON NOW HO CHI MINH CITY, SAY CORRECT NAME "SAIGON-HCM CITY" (AFP, WP; REUTER, CHITRIB). NAME "HCM CITY" WILL BE HONORIFIC, ACCORDING VC (REUTER, NYT).

FRENCH MFA SAID RECEIVING MESSAGES INDICATING SAIGON SITUATION RETURNING TO NORMAL (REUTER, NYT; CSM). AP SAYS REPORTERS MOVE ABOUT FREELY IN SAIGON (NYT; CSM). SAIGON SIGHS RELIEF BECAUSE NO VENGEFUL BLOODBATH (REUTER, LAT 5/1). VC SAY LAST RESISTANCE IN SVN FALLS, NOW IN COMPLETE CONTROL. NVN DEMANDS US SHIPS LEAVE, CALLS REFUGEE PICK-UP "CRIMINAL" INTERFERENCE IN SVN INTERNAL AFFAIRS (PHINQ; CHITRIB). VC DECREES NATIONALIZE VIRTUALLY ALL SVN BUSINESS, INDUSTRY. SVN GOVT ORDERS CONFISCATION PROPERTY OF "ENEMIES," CLAIMS TITLE TO US-PROVIDED PLANES, SHIPS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT TAKEN ABROAD BY PEOPLE FLEEING, ALSO "DOZENS" TONS OF GOLD IT SAYS

IN POSSESSION OF OFFICIALS IN EXILE (SUN). VC WARN VIETS AGAINST "ACTING LIKE AMERICANS" (NYDN). COMMUNIST VICTORS BEGIN TASKS WINNING PEACE, GOVERNING SVN, WHICH MAY BE MORE FORMIDABLE THAN WINNING WAR (MILLS, SUN). VC TIGHTEN CONTROL (WP). VN MERGER NOT LIKELY SOON BECAUSE OF POLITICAL, ECON, SOCIAL DIFFERENCES (AFP, NYT). VC BAN PUBLICATION ALL PRINTED MATERIAL, INCLUDING

PAPERS (REUTER, NYT). WP, LAT (5/1) DO BACKGROUNDEERS ON VC LEADERS; LAT NOTES MIXTURE OF COMMUNISTS AND NATIONALISTS IN VC LEADERSHIP, "HEAVILY TINGED WITH RED."

CAMBODIAN EVACUEES FROM FRENCH EMBASSY PP OVERDUE AT THAI BORDER (ANDELMAN, NYT). CONCERN RISES, GROUP BELIEVED OUT OF GAS ON ROAD (AP, NYDN). INTL RED CROSS OFFICIALS SAY WILL SEEK CONTACT WITH HIGH-LEVEL KR ON FATE OF FOREIGN REFUGEES (PHINQ). FRENCH OFFICIALS EXPRESS FEAR KR MAY DEMAND PRICE FOR FREEDOM OF 600 UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 103701

DETAINEES TRYING REACH THAI BORDER (AFP, WP).

SIHANOUK CHARGES FRANCE HARBORS HUNDREDS OF "WAR CRIMINALS" (KAMM, NYT). SIRIK MATAK SAID TO HAVE YIELDED TO KR (AFP, NYT). UN AUTHORITIES ACCEPTED FORMAL CLAIM OF NEW CAMBODIAN GOVT TO GA SEAT (NYT).

SIMONS (WP) NOTES AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE CARRIED ON BUSINESS IN USUAL FASHION -- ASSIDUOUSLY LOWERING US PROFILE IN LAOS -- AS NVN CELEBRATED VERY SPECIAL MAY DAY.

2. JAPAN

MOFA SPOKESMAN KURODA THURSDAY TOLD FOREIGN PRESS INDOCHINA FALL WOULD NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT JAPAN'S SECURITY, BUT SK "DIFFERENT STORY." DOES NOT FORESEE WAR IN KOREA IN "VERY NEAR FUTURE," BUT NOTED "NEW UNEASINESS" IN TOKYO ABOUT RELIABILITY OF US COMMITMENT TO SK. SAID LESSON OF INDOCHINA TRAGEDY IS ONCE US WITHDRAWS FORCES, DIFFICULT DEFEND ANTI-COMMUNIST GOVTS. ADDED JAPAN WOULD RECOGNIZE WHAT-EVER GOVT TAKES EFFECTIVE CONTROL IN SVN (WP).

NEW NAGASAKI JET AIRPORT BUILT ON OFFSHORE ISLAND OPENED THURSDAY (WP).

SUN'S SEIDEN REPORTS 29 PRO-COMMUNIST STUDENTS JAILED AFTER ASSAULT ON SVN EMBASSY NEAR MIDNIGHT WEDNESDAY. DEMANDED "RETURN EMBASSY TO THE PEOPLE," AND CLASHED VIOLENTLY WITH RIOT POLICE. SAYS SVN AMBASSADOR MUM WHETHER WOULD SUPPORT NEW GOVT, BUT EMBASSY BUSIER THAN USUAL AS MORE THAN 1,000 SVIET STUDENTS COME TO

DISCUSS PROBLEMS.

JOC (TOKYO) NOTES STEEL INDUSTRY THAT SUEZ CANAL REOPENING
JUNE 5 MAY REDUCE ROLLED STEEL, PIPE SALES TO PERSIAN
GULF NATIONS.

WSJ (LONDON) SAYS KAWASAKI STEEL PLANS RAISE 42 MILLION
DOLS BY OFFERING 8.75 PERCENT SEVEN-YEAR NOTES,
DENOMINATED IN GERMAN MARKS, THROUGH NIKKO SECURITIES;
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PAGE 06 STATE 103701

WON'T BE SOLD IN US.

3. KOREA

SK SECURITY FORCES THURSDAY SAID ARRESTED COMMUNIST
AGENT, SEIZED SMALL CACHE ARMS, SUPPLIES ALLEGEDLY
FOR USE NK SPIES ON SOUTHERN COAST NEAR PUSAN (AFP,
WP). SAY SUSPECT CONFESSED HIS MISSION TO BUILD
UNDERGROUND FRONT FOR "INDOCHINA-STYLE" SUBVERSION
(PHINQ).

FR. SINNOTT DEMONSTRATED TO PRESS IN TOKYO TORTURE
METHODS HE SAID SK OFFICIALS USE ON POLITICAL PRISONERS;
SAID SK POLITICAL CONDITIONS "GETTING WORSE AND WORSE"
(AP, WP).

NYT'S HALLORAN IN SEOUL QUOTES DRP POLICY COMM CHAIRMAN
PARK CHUNG KYU SAYING IN INTERVIEW THURSDAY PRES PARK'S
RESTRICTIVE POLICY FAILS ACHIEVE INTENDED NATL UNITY,
BUT REPRESENTS BEST COURSE. ASSERTED SK NEEDS STRONG
LEADERSHIP, HAS NO CHOICE IN SEMI-WARTIME SITUATION,
BECAUSE DOESN'T WANT DISSENT TO INVITE NK AGGRESSION.
HALLORAN ALSO QUOTES KIM DONG JO CONCEDING IN
SEPARATE INTERVIEW "EXCITED, CRAZY INVESTIGATOR"
MIGHT TORTURE PRISONERS, BUT BASIC ROKG POLICY
DOES NOT PERMIT THIS.

4. CHINA

CHAIRMAN MAO SENDS VC, NVN LEADERS "WARMEST
CONGRATULATIONS" ON VN VICTORY; MESSAGE ALSO SIGNED
BY CHOU EN-LAI, CHU TEH (WP).

SEVEN PROTESTANT DENOMINATIONS CHARGE IN NY TAIWAN
GOVT VIOLATED FREEDOM OF RELIGION BY CONFISCATING
1600 COPIES OF BIBLE PRINTED IN ROMANIZED TAYAL TRIBAL
LANGUAGE, BANNING BIBLE STUDY IN JAPANESE. ALSO
CHARGE GRC IMPEDING PLANS FOR BILLY GRAHAM CRUSADE
TAIPEI IN OCTOBER, BY ASSIGNING 3,000 SEAT AUDITORIUM
TO ELIMINATE OUTDOOR RALLY THAT WOULD DEMONSTRATE
CHURCH STRENGTH (RELIGIOUS NEWS, WP).

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 103701

5. INDONESIA

DEF MIN PANGGBEAN TOLD PRESS THURSDAY,
AFTER MEETING SUHARTO, GOI TO STEP UP OPERATIONS

AGAINST COMMUNIST UNDERGROUND, INCREASE VIGILANCE
TO DEAL WITH PKI REMNANTS. SAID US DEPARTURE FROM
VN WOULD NOT CAUSE VACUUM IN REGION. ADDED INDONESIA
WOULD RECOGNIZE ANY LEGAL GOVT IN SVN SUPPORTED BY
PEOPLE (REUTER, WP).

6. AUSTRALIA

OFFICIALS SAY GOA PLANS RECOGNIZE NEW SVN GOVT WHEN
RECEIVES OFFICIAL CONFORMATION NEW REGIME FORMED (WP).

WSJ (DALLAS) CITES DELHI INTL OIL SPOKESMAN THAT
FIRM SOLD MAJOR PORTION OIL INTERESTS IN AUSTRALIA
TO PETROLEUM AND MINERALS AUTHORITY FOR INITIAL PAYMENT
17.1 MILLION DOLS, LATER PAYMENT UP TO 13.8 MILLION
DOLS.

7. NEW ZEALAND

MOFA ANNOUNCED THURSDAY ARRANGEMENTS MADE WITH SWEDEN
TO COOPERATE IN DETECTING UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR
EXPLOSIONS (AFP, WP).

8. PHILIPPINES

ABOUT 84 NEWSMEN ON BOARD USS OKINAWA EXPECTED ARRIVE
CLARK AB FRIDAY AFTERNOON, ACCORDING MIL SOURCES;
SAY AMEMBASSY MANILA ASKED GOP PERMIT NEWSMAN, MOSTLY
AMCITS, REMAIN 72 HRS TO ATTEND BUSINESS (REUTER-CLARK
AB).

BENIGNO AQUINO ASKED FOR RC LAST RITES THURSDAY
THROUGH LAWYER, AS HUNGER STRIKE NEARS END FIRST
MONTH. LAWYER SAYS STILL CONSCIOUS, WEIGHS ONLY
127 POUNDS AND DEF SEC ENRILE AGREES PERMIT ARCHBISHOP
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 103701

SIN VISIT AQUINO FRIDAY (AP, WP).

9. THAILAND

CHATICHAI TOLD PRESS THURSDAY US/RTG AGREED TO SUBSTANTIAL
US TROOP WITHDRAWAL, BUT DECLINED GIVE NUMBER; STATED

US CONFIRMED DEFENSE COMMITMENT (NYT-BANGKOK). ALSO SAID "ENORMOUS" NUMBER WOULD "SURPRISE" MANY; TO BE ANNOUNCED JOINTLY MONDAY (UPI, PHINQ, NYDN, CHITRIB, WP). DIPLOMATIC SOURCES WASHINGTON SAY FIGURE 9,000 (REUTER, NYT). US OFFICIALS BELIEVE RTG CALL DESIGNED FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION SINCE HAVE NOT DEMANDED "TOTAL WITHDRAWAL" IN TALKS WITH US (WP).

MDS, RED CROSS WAITED VAINLY TILL SUNSET THURSDAY FOR FOREIGN EVACUEES FROM FRENCH EMBASSY PP; PLAN RETURN BRIDGE AT ARANYAPRATHET FRIDAY. KR TROOPS OFFER NO REASON FOR DELAY TO FRENCH AMB. JEAN LOUIS TOFFIN AT BRIDGE; REJECT SWEDISH OFFER OF GAS FOR CONVOY REPORTED STALLED 30 MILES FROM BORDER (PHINQ).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. INDOCHINA

PHINQ FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY ADMIN'S REFUSAL TO GIVE CONGRESS COPIES OF NIXON LETTERS TO THIEU, ON GROUND OF DIPLOMATIC CONFIDENTIALITY -- NO SVN GOVT EXISTS TO BE CONFIDENTIAL WITH; ISSUE NOT DIPLOMATIC CONFIDENTIALITY BUT PUBLIC CONFIDENCE.

WP FEELS PROBLEMS OF RECEIVING SVN IMMIGRANTS ARE CONSIDERABLE BUT HARDLY UNMANAGEABLE; BUT UNLESS WHOLE REFUGEE SITUATION IS TAKEN PROMPTLY INTO HAND, NASTY PALL WILL BE CAST OVER VALID AND NECESSARY RESCUE OPERATION AND MANY PEOPLE UNNECESSARILY HURT (USIA WIRELESS FILE).

HEARST'S BALT NA (MAY 1) CONTENTS "TASTE OF ASHES FROM OUR VIETNAM DEFEAT" NEED NOT BE SO IMPORTANT-- WE CAN RECAPTURE LOST CREDIBILITY WITH OUR ALLIES UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 103701

BY KEEPING OURSELVES MILITARILY STRONG AND HENCEFORTH LIVING UP TO OUR COMMITMENTS. CHITRIB WARNS US MUST NOT YIELD TO NEW ISOLATIONISM ALREADY SURFACING WHICH CONCLUDES THAT BECAUSE US SACRIFICES FOR SVN WERE IN VAIN, WE SHOULD REJECT ANY COMMITMENTS THAT MIGHT MEAN FUTURE SACRIFICES, EVEN WHERE OUR INTERESTS ARE GREATER, FREEDOM MORE REAL, THAN WAS TRUE OF VN.

GLOBE'S HEALY SUGGESTS VN WAR HAS HURT SO MANY PEOPLE, LEFT SO MANY DISENCHANTED, THAT CONGRESSIONAL DEMAGOGUE COULD GET HOLD OF VN ISSUE AND RIDE NATION RIGHT INTO PERIOD OF ISOLATIONISM. GLOBE'S SNOW RECALLS, AS EXAMPLE OF "HOW OVERWHELMINGLY MISGUIDED" SOME OF OUR VN EFFORTS WERE, INSTANCE OF US NAVY OFFICER RAISING PIGS AND FOWL FOR HIS SVN COUNTERPARTS TO INDUCE THEM

TO MAN THEIR OWN BASES AND VESSELS.

CRITICIZING "DEFEATISTS WHO CRY HAVOC" AS DOMINOES FALL, MARQUIS CHILDS (SUN) URGES ORDERLY US WITHDRAWAL FROM POWER OUTPOSTS, SUCH AS PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND, THAT NO LONGER SERVE "REALISTIC PURPOSE." SAYS GOOD NEWS THAT ABLE AMB WHITEHOUSE GOING TO BANGKOK.

SUN'S PETER JAY DECLARES THAT OF ALL POLITICIANS WHO HAVE DONE COUNTRY DISCREDIT OVER LONG VN WAR YEARS, PERHAPS MOST SICKENING ARE THOSE NOW RESISTING ADMISSION OF AND AID TO SEA REFUGEES THAT OUR BANKRUPT POLICIES HAVE CREATED. MONEY AND EFFORT NEEDED TO RESETTLE REFUGEES SEEMS NEITHER EXTRAVAGANT NOR INAPPROPRIATE (BOTH IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

NYT NOTES UNEASINESS ABOUT VN REFUGEES EXPRESSED IN VARIOUS US COMMUNITIES, BUT TRUSTS BETTER INSTINCTS OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR MUST AND SURELY WILL PREVAIL. URGES ADMIN PROVIDE UNEQUIVOCAL AFFIRMATION IMMEDIATELY THAT RESETTLEMENT IS NATIONAL, NOT LOCAL, OBLIGATION; AND (IN COMPANION EDIT) ASSERTS CONGRESS HAS INESCAPABLE RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SPEEDY AND ADEQUATE FINANCING AVAILABLE (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

RESTON (NYT) SAYS THIS IS TIME, AFTER SVN FALL, FOR UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 10 STATE 103701

CAUTION, REFLECTION -- AND ADMIN CLEARLY UNDERSTANDS THIS. BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, SOME LEGISLATORS, INCLUDING MANSFIELD, ARE ADVISING US GET OUT OF SK, OTHER ASIAN AND WORLD POSTS. NYT'S WICKER, RECALLING WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN, SUGGESTS EVEN IF SVN NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMMUNISTS EARLY-ON MIGHT NOT HAVE PRODUCED NEUTRALIST REGIME, NEVERTHELESS, UNDERTAKEN SOON ENOUGH, EVEN NEGOTIATION THAT LED TO COMMUNIST DOMINATION MIGHT HAVE PREVENTED LONG, BLOODY POST -1965 PHASE OF WAR AND ULTIMATE US ROUT (BOTH IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

LAT (MAY 1) SAYS RESPONDING TO NEEDS OF VN REFUGEES IS ONE WAY US CAN GO ABOUT HEALING WAR'S WOUNDS; EVEN 300 MILLION DOLS OVER NEXT 12 MONTHS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE INVESTMENT.

11. JAPAN
GORDON CONVERSE (IN TWO-PAGE CSM FEATURE) SAYS BLUER SKIES SEEN OVER TOKYO THIS SPRING, POLLUTION DOWN, AND MORE BREATHING SPACE CREATED BY RECLAIMING 1,000 ACRES FROM TOKYO BAY.

12. KOREA

REUTER'S MACKENZIE IN SEOUL NOTES SK LEADERS REACTING WITH OUTWARD CALM TO COMMUNIST VICTORIES IN SEA, BUT AT SAME TIME WARNING OF DANGER OF NK ATTACK THROUGH "MISCALCULATION." PRESENCE OF 42,000 US TROOPS VIEWED AS STRONG DETERRENT.

GODSELL (CSM) SEES THAILAND LOSING NO TIME IN BENDING TO WIND OF COMMUNIST SUCCESS, AS SHOWN BY CHATICHAI CALL FOR ASEAN MEETING IN BANGKOK FRIDAY TO CONSIDER JOINT RECOGNITION OF NEW REGIME IN SAIGON.

14. GENERAL

NELSON (REUTER, WASHINGTON) CITES OFFICIALS SAYING WOULD BE DANGEROUS PROVOKE US IN COMING MONTHS, BECAUSE US MAY SEEK RESTORE INTL HONOR BY RESPONDING FIRMLY -- EVEN DANGEROUSLY AND UNPREDICATABLY ACCORDING ONE UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 11 STATE 103701

OFFICIAL -- IF IT FEELS ENEMIES TRYING TAKE ADVANTAGE OF VN DEBACLE TO TEST RESOLVE. KISSINGER

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